



ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR BUSINESS SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Bringing Together Those Dedicated to Teaching Excellence

April 30, 2013

Dr. Richard Hopper
President
Kennebec Valley Community College
92 Western Avenue
Fairfield, ME 04937

Dear President Hopper:

Congratulations! The Board of Commissioners of the Associate Degree Commission met on April 18-19, 2013, and voted to reaffirm accreditation to Kennebec Valley Community College with opportunities for improvement in your business programs.

The Board of Commissioners commends Kennebec Valley Community College in providing quality benefits to its stakeholders. Rarely does the Board of Commissioners find a school where all of their full-time faculty own and operate businesses. The department's interaction with the community is likewise commendable. The Board of Commissioners commends you on meeting the standards with no notes or conditions for accreditation.

Opportunities for improvement indicate that the Standard has been met, and are suggestions to help move your processes from good to great. It is extremely rare that a school receives accreditation without opportunities for improvement given ACBSP's Core Value of Continuous Improvement and Organizational Learning, that "Business schools and programs should pursue regular cycles of planning, execution, and evaluation of every process and system. Ongoing improvement of these processes and systems leads to ever higher quality and student/stakeholder satisfaction." The opportunities for improvement in your programs are:

OFI on Standard 1, Criterion 1.3: Please improve communications with business advisory partners. This should provide valuable evidence to external stakeholders of your constant facilitation of leadership.

OFI on Standard 4, Criterion 4.3: By analyzing the data and implementing continuous improvements, stakeholders will benefit from the use of gathered data. Kennebec Valley Community College has hired a Director of Institutional Research who should prove useful in utilizing assessment data for continuous improvement, which is an important step in the ACBSP framework.

Your first Quality Assurance Report will be due on 2/15/2015, and every two years after that. It is not necessary to report on opportunities for improvement (OFIs). Your ten-year reaffirmation will be due in 2023.

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ACBSP will inform the public of decisions on accreditation status made by the Boards of Commissioners by posting the accreditation decisions on the ACBSP Gateway. The decisions on accreditation status can be accessed from the following link: [Accreditation Decisions](#) and will appear as the following:

Kennebec Valley Community College
Reaffirmation of accreditation granted.

If you have any comments concerning this notification please let me know.

ACBSP encourages you to publicly announce that your business programs are accredited. Next week, we will be sending you, via e-mail, a sample ACBSP Press Release and ACBSP Logo files for publicizing your accreditation. As you prepare these materials, the following is your official ACBSP statement:

The following business programs at Kennebec Valley Community College are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs:

Marketing Management - AAS
Accounting - AAS

Please take this opportunity to review the institution name as it will appear on your Certificate of Accreditation. If this is not correct, please notify Diana Hallerud via email at dianahallerud@acbsp.org and provide the correction by May 15, 2013.

Name of institution as it will appear on the certificate:
Kennebec Valley Community College
Fairfield, ME

Please mark your calendar to join us in Salt Lake City, Utah, where we will honor you and all other schools receiving initial or reaffirmation of accreditation during the 2012-2013 membership year. You are encouraged to attend along with your Chief Academic Officer and Dean or Head of the Business School or Program. Many institutions invite faculty to this prestigious celebration. Your institution will also be announced during the Associate Degree Institutions meeting held on Saturday, June 22, 2013 at 4:00 pm. There is a breakfast on Sunday morning June 23, 2013, at 7:45 a.m. for those institutions that are receiving accreditation.

The purpose of the breakfast is to more personally congratulate the institutional representatives and to outline the procedures that will be followed at the accreditation banquet. At least one institutional representative should attend the breakfast.

In addition to the breakfast, a professional photographer will be available on Sunday, June 23, 2013 to photograph all institutional representatives along with the ACBSP Director of Accreditation, Assistant Director of Accreditation, and the Chair of the Associate Degree Board of Commissioners. **Associate Degree institutions beginning with A – L will be photographed from 5:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.** Appropriate dress for the photo session and banquet is business professional.

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The 2013 conference will be June 21-24 in Salt Lake City and our host hotel will be the Marriott Salt Lake City Downtown. Updated information is always available by going to ACBSP Gateway, www.acbsp.org. The 2013 conference theme will be, "Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility in the Classroom."

Congratulations on maintaining such a high quality business program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Parscale".

Steve Parscale
Director of Accreditation

c: Ms. Karen White, Vice President, Academic Dean
Professor Marjorie J. York, Department Chair, Business